

DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL-CARRBORO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION BOARD**13 June 2018****MINUTES OF MEETING**

The Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization Board met on June 13, 2018, at 9:00 a.m. in the City Council Committee Room, located on the second floor of Durham City Hall. The following people were in attendance:

Damon Seils (MPO Board Chair)	Town of Carrboro
Vice Chair Wendy Jacobs (MPO Board Vice Chair)	Durham County
Vernetta Alston (Member)	City of Durham
Ellen Reckhow (Member)	GoTriangle
Nina Szlosberg-Landis (Member)	NC Board of Transportation
Renee Price (Member)	Orange County
Heidi Carter (Alternate)	Durham County
Jenn Weaver (Alternate)	Town of Hillsborough
Michael Parker (Alternate)	Town of Chapel Hill
Mark Marcoplos (Alternate)	Orange County
Richard Hancock	NCDOT, Division 5
Ed Lewis	NCDOT, Division 7
Bryan Kluchar	NCDOT, Division 8
Jen Britt	NCDOT, Division 8
Julie Bogle	NCDOT, TPD
Tina Moon	Town of Carrboro
Zack Hallock	Town of Carrboro
Kayla Seibel	Town of Chapel Hill
Bergen Watterson	Town of Chapel Hill
Geoff Green	GoTriangle
Patrick McDonough	GoTriangle
Ellen Beckmann	City of Durham
Evan Tenenbaum	Durham County
John Hodges-Copple	Triangle J Council of Governments
Terry Bellamy	DCHC MPO
Felix Nwoko	DCHC MPO
Andy Henry	DCHC MPO
Meg Scully	DCHC MPO
Aaron Cain	DCHC MPO
Brian Rhodes	DCHC MPO
Mo Devlin	DCHC MPO
Anne Phillips	DCHC MPO
Robert Jahn	DCHC MPO
Bill Judge	City of Durham Transportation

Quorum Count: 8 of 10 Voting Members

Chair Damon Seils called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. A roll call was performed. The Voting Members and Alternate Voting Members of the DCHC MPO Board were identified and are indicated above. Chair Damon Seils reminded everyone to sign-in using the sign-in sheet that was being circulated.

Michael Parker made a motion to grant an excused absence to Pam Hemminger from Chapel Hill. Vice Chair Wendy Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

PRELIMINARIES:

2. Ethics Reminder

Chair Damon Seils read the Ethics Reminder and asked if there were any known conflicts of interest with respect to matters coming before the MPO Board and requested that if there were any identified during the meeting for them to be announced. There were no known conflicts identified by the MPO Board members.

3. Adjustments to the Agenda

Chair Damon Seils stated that GoTriangle requested to postpone agenda item #7, which was the Quarterly Update on Durham-Orange Light Rail (D-O LRT) project to the next MPO Board meeting on August 8, 2018.

Nina Szlosberg-Landis made a motion to postpone the Quarterly Update for the D-O LRT project by GoTriangle to the next MPO Board meeting on August 8. Vernetta Alston seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

5. Directives to Staff

The Directives to Staff were included in the agenda packet for review.

CONSENT AGENDA:

6. Approval of May 9, 2018, Meeting Minutes

Ellen Reckhow made a motion to approve the May 9, 2018 minutes. Michael Parker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS:

7. Quarterly Update on the Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit Project

Geoff Green, GoTriangle

The Quarterly Update on the D-O LRT Project was postponed until the next MPO Board meeting on August 8, 2018, as mentioned above.

8. FY2018 Q3 Durham and Orange Transit Tax Quarterly Report

Mo Devlin, LPA Staff

Mo Devlin stated that GoTriangle produced a Quarterly Report to the DCHC MPO per the Durham-Orange Interlocal Agreement for Cost Sharing. Mo Devlin added that staff prepared a memorandum describing the financial activity of the Durham-Orange Tax District and the Special Tax District through the third quarter of FY2018. Mo Devlin further added that this memorandum is supported by a financial report as issued by GoTriangle, the transit tax administrator.

Mo Devlin discussed the transit outputs for the tax revenue, including service improvements to GoTriangle and GoDurham. Mo Devlin added that service improvements include increasing frequency and length to certain routes as well as adding additional routes. Mo Devlin discussed bus purchases for GoTriangle, Go Durham, Chapel Hill Transit and Orange County Public Transit. Mo Devlin added that the required funding for bus purchases for transit are cost prohibitive and usually require an extended period of time to accumulate funding.

Chair Damon Seils stated that he was notified of Chapel Hill Transit buses traveling across the county on their way to Chapel Hill. Mo Devlin stated that there is additional planning and efforts occurring as invoices are processed that are not yet reflected on the 3Q Transit Plan.

Nina Szlosberg-Landis stated that she discovered, while looking through financial reports for GoTriangle, an abnormality in the rate of vehicle registration fees relative to the increasing population. Mo Devlin stated that this could be that more people are using transit, as she noted that vehicle rentals were noticeably above their average rate. Chair Damon Seils and Nina Szlosberg Landis discussed the need for input from the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

Michael Parker and Mo Devlin discussed adding a slide to the presentation, which would visually reflect the projected inputs versus actual inputs. Ellen Reckhow and Mo Devlin discussed Table 1 in the memorandum. Ellen Reckhow stated that she would like to see the relationship between revenues and funds visually represented in a different table. Mark Marcoplos discussed the need to communicate the Transit Plan to the public. There was further discussion about better ways to accomplish better public communication, including adding information to social media, websites, and water bills.

No further action was required by the MPO Board.

9. Durham and Orange FY2019 Annual Transit Plan Work Plan

Mo Devlin, LPA Staff

Mo Devlin stated that the annual Work Plans shall be developed for the administration of Durham-Orange Tax District and Special Tax District funds per the 2017 Durham and Orange County Transit Plans. Mo Devlin added that the Staff Working Group (SWG) released the Transit Work Plans, which includes presentations to the MPO Technical Committee (TC), Durham and Orange counties, and the MPO Board.

Mo Devlin stated that capital spending includes bus stop improvements as well as funding for transit enhancement corridors. Mo Devlin added that during the years 2014 to 2017, many sponsors were not able to use the available cash flow at the level planned, which created “carryover balances” or additional funds available in FY2019 for transit needs. Mo Devlin added that these balances are being utilized to provide additional service or make additional, one-time capital investments in the FY2019

Work Plan. Mo Devlin further added that the public comment period officially ends today, but she would be able to receive additional comments if requested.

Nina Szlosberg-Landis, Ellen Reckhow, and Mo Devlin discussed the addition of the Hillsboro Train Station. Nina Szlosberg-Landis and Ellen Reckhow discussed informing the Mayor of Hillsboro about this development. Jenn Weaver, Mo Devlin, and Renee Price discussed that the Hillsboro circulator would travel in a clockwise in addition to the established counterclockwise route.

Chair Damon Seils discussed concerns from local jurisdictions and regional bodies about issues in accessing funds for bus access capital projects due to unclear or insufficient language. Mo Devlin stated that the SWG is currently in discussions about establishing policy that allow local jurisdictions to apply for funding.

Ellen Reckhow discussed the possible ways for the public to be made aware of the FY2019 transit plan and how revenues are allocated. Renee Price and Mo Devlin discussed the current process for ensuring bus stops are made Americans with Disability Act (ADA) compliant.

No further action was required by the MPO Board.

10. Briefing on Joint MPO Board Meeting

Aaron Cain, LPA Staff

Aaron Cain stated that there were three main informational items that were discussed in the Joint MPO Board Meeting: the Transportation Policy Priorities, Major Funded Roadway Projects, and Major Transit Infrastructure. Vice Chair Wendy Jacobs stated the Policy Priorities document allows people to discuss the importance of transportation funding when talking to different groups of people, especially lawmakers. Vice Chair Wendy Jacobs added that she encouraged everyone to share this document with staff and board members. Ellen Reckhow highlighted portions of the Policy Priorities, including that the Strategic Transportation Investments (STI) process should be more reliable and the negative effects of funding caps. John Hodges-Copple confirmed that the current Transportation Policy Priorities reflects the changes made during the Joint MPO Board Meeting.

There was discussion about the attendance of the North Carolina Rail Road (NCRR) at the Joint MPO Board Meeting. Aaron Cain stated that he will ensure that a representative from NCRR will be invited to the next meeting. Vice Chair Wendy Jacobs stated that the Major Transit Infrastructure document show the locations where investments are occurring and the long term strategy for the DCHC and Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) Boards.

Chair Damon Seils and Vice Chair Wendy Jacobs thanked John Hodges-Copple for his contribution, and Chair Damon Seils thanked Vice Chair Wendy Jacobs for representing the DCHC MPO in his absence. Aaron Cain stated that the next Joint Board meeting is scheduled for October 31, 2018, but the location has not yet been confirmed.

Ellen Reckhow made a motion for the MPO Board to endorse the Transportation Policy Priorities. Jenn Weaver seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

11. Allocation of Local Input Points for Regional Impact Projects

Aaron Cain, LPA Staff

Aaron Cain stated that the DCHC Board released for public review the initial allocation of local points for Regional Impact projects for P5 in May 2018. Aaron Cain added that the DCHC TC recommended an allocation of local input points for Regional Impact projects for P5 for the MPO Board to approve, subject to further refinement to include additional information from the Divisions. Aaron Cain further added that the TC recommended allocation of local input points is attached for the MPO Board to review, and that it deviates from the initial list the Board released for public review in May.

Aaron Cain discussed the highway projects that received local input point allocation based on TC recommendations. Aaron Cain stated that the TC recommended allocating points for the addition of a third southbound lane on NC 55 between I-40 to Meridian Drive. Ellen Reckhow and Aaron Cain discussed that Division 5 originally submitted this project and the Strategic Planning Office of Transportation (SPOT) score was among the highest. Aaron Cain added that there is a bicycle and pedestrian component to that project that has not yet been finalized.

Aaron Cain further stated that the TC recommended adding points to the US 15-501 improvements from Raleigh Road (NC 54) to Ephesus Church Road. Aaron Cain added that converting US 15-501 to synchronized streets from Smith Level Road to US 64 Pittsboro Bypass has 47 points allocated from the DCHC MPO and the other 53 would come from Triangle Area Rural Transportation Planning Organization (TARPO) due to the length of roadway in each planning organization's boundaries. Chair Damon Seils and Aaron Cain discussed that the project would not have any implications to Smith Level Road in Carrboro. Aaron Cain added that two (2) points would be allocated from DCHC MPO to the managed shoulders project along I-540 from I-40 to I-87, and the other 98 point are allocated from CAMPO due to length of the roadway in each planning organization's boundaries.

Aaron Cain and Chair Damon Seils discussed the project at NC 54 and Old Fayetteville Road, which would improve an intersection in Carrboro. Aaron Cain stated that the project is currently in the last five years of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and it is possible that it would not get funded this round.

Aaron Cain stated that the TC no longer recommended adding points to: NC 751 from NC 54 to Southpoint Auto Park; NC 751 from South Roxboro to Woodcroft; NC 54 from NC 55 to Barbee; and the interchange at US 15/501 and NC 147. Vice Chair Wendy Jacobs and Aaron Cain discussed submitting low scoring projects that do not have points allocated to them for SPOT 6, except for NC 54 improvements from NC 55 to Barbee because it is already a part of a larger improvement project. Ellen Beckman, Aaron Cain, and Ellen Reckhow discussed SPOT scoring and how it could change for P6 based on scoring formulas. Ellen Beckmann stated that the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) study is underway for the US 70 project from TW Alexander to the East End Connector, regardless of the amount of points allocated to projects along US 70. Richard Hancock and Aaron Cain discussed projects cascading down from the Statewide to the Regional tier. Ellen Beckmann and Aaron Cain discussed the possibility for the Build NC Act of 2018 to improve US 70. Vice Chair Wendy Jacobs, Richard Hancock,

196 and Ellen Beckmann discussed the cost and funding for landscaping along US 70. Richard Hancock and
197 Aaron Cain discussed the section of US 70 from the East End Connector to Miami Boulevard.

198 Aaron Cain discussed local input points allocated by the Division and his efforts with NCDOT
199 Divisions 5, 7, and 8 to coordinate allocation of points in order to maximize funding for projects. Aaron
200 Cain added that the Divisions would be in their public comment period until the end of June 2018. Aaron
201 Cain stated that one project of particular importance to Division 5 is US 70 upgrades from Miami
202 Boulevard to Page Road. Aaron Cain added that whether or not the US 70 upgrade project will be
203 funded depends on how many points CAMPO and Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments apply to
204 their projects. Aaron Cain also noted that Division 5 is in discussions with the SPOT office about possible
205 errors in scoring.

206 Aaron Cain stated that Division 7, per its Methodology, scored widening NC 54 from Orange
207 Grove Road to Old Fayetteville Road higher than intersection improvements along that corridor. Chair
208 Damon Seils noted that there is a current NC 54 corridor study meant to define improvements, and
209 urged to wait for the study to be completed before allocating points to this project. Chair Damon Seils
210 stated that the Town of Carrboro and Orange County have historically not been supportive of widening
211 NC 54. Renee Price added that Orange County also did not favor allocating points to NC 54 widening
212 during discussion with Triangle Area Rural Transportation Planning Organization (TARPO).

213 Aaron Cain discussed the list of transit projects that that the TC recommended for allocation of
214 both full and partial points. Aaron Cain and Chair Damon Seils discussed that the TC did not recommend
215 allocating points to the expansion of the GoTriangle Durham-Raleigh Express (DRX) bus route for FY2019
216 and DRX is not changing their service as it already exists. Nina Szlosberg-Landis and Aaron Cain discussed
217 the involvement with NCRR and NCDOT Rail in the discussion of allocating points. Nina-Szlosberg
218 recommended an increase in involvement with NCRR. Felix Nwoko stated that the DCHC MPO and
219 CAMPO offices have begun coordinating with NCRR. Aaron Cain also stated that he is coordinating with

Division 7 to allocate available points to the GoTriangle Orange County Durham Express (ODX) bus service expansion for FY2023.

Renee Price and Aaron Cain discussed the timeline for the approval or points as it related to different scenarios regarding the continuation of the D-O LRT project as it is jeopardized in the North Carolina legislature budget bill in its current form. Aaron Cain stated that, depending on outcome, the 100 points currently assigned to the D-O LRT could be allocated for other projects, however, other transit projects do not have a strong likelihood of receiving funding.

Chair Damon Seils opened the meeting for a public hearing. There were no comments from the public. Chair Damon Seils then closed the public hearing.

Aaron Cain stated the deadline for the submission of local points for P5 to the SPOT is July 27, 2018. Renee Price and Aaron Cain discussed the need for communication of any changes that occur before the list is brought to Chair Damon Seils and Vice Chair Wendy Jacobs for approval.

Michael Parker made a motion to approve an allocation of local input points as recommended by the TC, but provide staff the ability to adjust those points based on the issues outlined in the attached memo and with the concurrence of the Chair and Vice Chair. Ellen Reckhow seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

12. Comprehensive Transportation Plan Amendment #1

Andy Henry, LPA Staff

Andy Henry stated that the MPO Board released in May an amendment to the Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) to change the proposed future configuration of the portion of Farrington Road between Southwest Durham Drive and the Falconbridge Road Extension from a four-lane divided to a two-lane cross-section. Andy Henry added that original amendment that the MPO released designated a two-lane cross-section. Andy Henry further added that the TC supports the designation of a two-lane divided cross-section with bicycle and pedestrian facilities because it would

provide greater vehicle capacity than a simple two-lane section, should that capacity be needed, and can be built within a less intrusive 80-foot right-of-way. Andy Henry discussed how the volume estimates for the year 2045 on Southwest Durham Drive and Farrington Road would be able to be accommodated by the proposed two-lane divided road configuration. Andy Henry and Ellen Reckhow discussed the methodology that Andy Henry used for the volume estimates.

Chair Damon Seils opened the public hearing for the proposed amendment. Phil Post, a resident of The Oaks neighborhood near Nottingham Drive in Durham County, stated that he requests that the 110 foot right-of-way to be maintained and not be reduced to 80 feet which is in the current proposal. Phil Post added that additional right-of-way would ensure responsible future growth. Chair Damon Seils thanked Phil Post and closed the public hearing as there were no further comments from the public.

Ellen Reckhow proposed to Chair Damon Seils that she meet with the planning staff from DCHC MPO and GoTriangle in order to better discuss this issue. Chair Damon Seils agreed and added that Phil Post would also be invited to meet with the planning committee. Ellen Beckmann discussed issues of accommodating bike lanes onto multiuse paths. Vice Chair Wendy Jacobs added that an important conversation would be the effect that changing the amount of right-of-way has on the ROMF.

Andy Henry stated that the next steps are the public involvement period will end on June 20, 2018, and the MPO will vote on adoption of Amendment #1 to the CTP at the next MPO Board meeting on August 8.

No further action was required by the MPO Board.

13. FY2019 Unified Planning Work Program Amendment #1

Meg Scully, LPA Staff

Meg Scully stated that the DCHC MPO is required by federal regulations to prepare an annual Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) that details and guides the urban area transportation planning activities. Meg Scully added that the UPWP identifies MPO planning tasks to be performed with the use of federal transportation funds and changes to the UPWP budget requires an amendment approved by

the MPO Board. Meg Scully further added that Amendment #1 of the FY2019 UPWP proposes to allocate Surface Transportation Block Grant-Direct Attributable (STBG-DA) funds among various task codes for the Lead Planning Agency. Chair Damon Seils stated that the MPO Board received a recommendation from the TC to approve Amendment #1.

Ellen Reckhow made a motion to approve Amendment #1 for the FY19 UPWP. Michael Parker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

14. FFY18 Section 5307/5340 FULL Apportionment Split Letter

Meg Scully, LPA Staff

Meg Scully stated that Section 5307/5340 funds are allocated to urbanized areas for transit capital and operating assistance, and for transportation-related planning. Meg Scully added that the DCHC MPO full apportionment for FFY18 for each program was released by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the LPA staff, in consultation with the four fixed-route transit operators and MPO policy, developed a recommended distribution of this funding. Meg Scully further added that a 'split letter' to FTA regarding the allocation of these funds among transit operators must be approved by the MPO Board to authorize the transit operators to seek applications for funding. Meg Scully stated the TC recommended approval.

Michael Parker made a motion to approve the distribution and endorse the attached FFY18 FULL apportionment split letter. Vernetta Alston seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

15. FFY17 and FFY18 Section 5339 Full Apportionment Split Letter

Meg Scully, LPA Staff

Meg Scully stated that the Section 5339 Buses and Bus Facilities program makes Federal resources available to states and designated recipients to replace, rehabilitate, purchase buses and related equipment, and to construct bus-related facilities. Meg Scully added that the DCHC MPO is the designated recipient for the Durham urbanized area (UZA). Meg Scully further added that section 5339 formula funds are allocated to the UZAs based upon population, vehicle revenue miles, and passenger

miles. Meg Scully added that, as the designated recipient for the 5339 funds for the Durham UZA, the DCHC MPO may allocate funding to fixed route operators. Meg Scully further added that the split letter, as developed by LPA staff in conjunction with fixed-route operators and according to MPO policy, defines the intended allocation for FFY17 and FFY18. Chair Damon Seils stated that the Board received recommendation for approval from the TC.

Ellen Reckhow made a motion to approve the FFY17 and FFY18 Section 5339 distribution and endorse the full apportionment split letter. Renee Price seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**16. Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities
(Section 5310) Grant - FY17 and FY18 Call for Projects**
Meg Scully, LPA Staff

Meg Scully stated that Section 5310 - Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities provides funds to improve mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities by removing barriers to transportation service and expanding transportation mobility options. Meg Scully added that the DCHC MPO is the designated recipient of these funds for the Durham UZA and distributes the funds to eligible sub-recipients through a competitive selection process. Meg Scully stated that the four sub recipients from previous years are; Chapel Hill Transit, GoDurham, Durham County Access, and Orange County Department on Aging. Meg Scully added that a Call for Projects is conducted during even numbered years and includes funds from two fiscal years, which equals approximately \$500K.

Vice Chair Wendy Jacobs and Nina Szlosberg-Landis discussed the importance of transportation to seniors and those with disabilities and the high costs of these services. Meg Scully discussed ways of mitigating the cost of transportation. Meg Scully added that every five years the local coordinated plan between human services and public transportation is updated, and that process is currently underway.

No further action was required by the MPO Board.

REPORTS:

17. Report from the Board Chair

Damon Seils, Board Chair

Chair Damon Seils stated that the Technical Corrections Bill for the D-O LRT passed in the North Carolina State Senate, and will move to the State House of Representatives for approval. Chair Damon Seils added that the Corrections Bill would enable the D-O LRT project to continue.

18. Report from the Technical Committee Chair

Ellen Beckmann, TC Chair

Ellen Beckmann stated that she attended several meetings for public projects in Durham to discuss topics such as Durham bike lanes, a bike and pedestrian project on Hillandale Road, the Raynor Street sidewalk project, and the East Durham Railroad siding and grade separations.

19. Report from LPA Staff

Andy Henry, LPA Manager

Andy Henry stated that there would be no meeting for the TC on June 27, 2018. The next TC meeting will be on July 25.

20. NCDOT Report

Richard Hancock, NCDOT Division 5, stated that there will be a public meeting to discuss point allocation at the Division 5 office on June 19, 2018. Richard Hancock also stated that Division 5 plans to hold a public meeting about the NC 54 corridor.

Richard Hancock and Vice Chair Wendy Jacobs discussed the closure on Bahama Road that resulted in a detour and led to increased traffic on Wilkins Road. Vice Chair Wendy Jacobs asked if there were plans to pave or otherwise improve the unpaved Wilkins Road. Richard Hancock replied that there are currently no plans to pave Wilkins Road, but would provide her with details as he receives them.

Ed Lewis, NCDOT Division 7, stated that there will be a scoping meeting for the eastern end of the NC 54 corridor in Graham, NC, on July 10. Michael Parker asked about the Roundabout at Mt.

Carmel Church Road and Bennett Road in Chapel Hill. Ed Lewis stated that Division 7 is currently in discussions with their craft engineer, and the project will be completed by the summer of 2019.

There was no report from Division 8.

There was no report from NCDOT Transportation Planning Division.

There was no report from NCDOT Traffic Operations.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

21. Recent News, Articles, and Updates

No informational items were discussed.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business before the DCHC MPO Board, the meeting was adjourned at

11:10 a.m.